



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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HEALTH AFFAIRS

JAN 14 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY  
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

SUBJECT: Realignment of the Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program (CCEP),  
Transition to the DoD Deployment Health Clinical Center (DHCC)

The CCEP, implemented to provide for the systematic evaluation of Gulf War veterans, will complete a major realignment during FY02. Effective February 1, 2002, the DHCC, established as one of three DoD Centers for Deployment Health, will assume responsibility for coordinating the evaluation of veterans seeking care for post-deployment health concerns. The ASD(HA) policy memorandums in attachment one provide background information on the DoD Centers for Deployment Health and the DoD/VA Post-deployment Health Evaluation and Management Clinical Practice Guideline (DHP CPG). After February 1, 2002, CCEP-eligible veterans who call the 1-800 hotline will be encouraged to seek clinical care using the PDH CPG. Details regarding the guideline are provided in attachment two and on the Post-deployment Health web site <http://www.pdhealth.mil>.

To ensure smooth transition of the program, new enrollment into the CCEP Automated Information System (AIS) shall cease effective February 1, 2002. Local CCEP offices should work diligently to complete outstanding CCEP evaluations and update their records. Individuals who have been scheduled for an evaluation and who have twice failed-to-show should be administratively declined. Veterans currently enrolled in the CCEP may opt to have their deployment related health concerns addressed using the PDH CPG. All outstanding CCEP evaluations must be completed or administratively closed by June 1, 2002. Military Treatment Facilities should follow Service guidance for disposition of locally generated CCEP records.

While it is expected that the transition will occur quickly with little or no difficulties, it must be completed at all CCEP sites by June 1, 2002, after which date all offices will be closed.

I ask the Surgeons General and the TMA Executive Director to take the necessary steps to successfully complete this important transition.

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Attachments:

1. ASD(HA) Memos, Sep 30, 99 and 7 Dec 01 w/o attachments
2. Info paper; Implementation of DOD/VA PDH CPG